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Parking ramp renovation earns international honor

LANSING – The Department of Management and Budget has received international recognition for its renovation of the Ottawa Parking Ramp in downtown Lansing. The International Parking Institute, a worldwide organization of parking professionals, notified the department that it has earned an award of merit for best parking facility rehabilitation or restoration in the organization's annual awards competition.

Projects that involved restoration or rehabilitation of existing parking structures were included in this category. Nominees were judged on planning, operational/architectural improvements, technical innovation and cost. The award of merit is the second highest honor in this category.

The ramp beneath the Hannah and Ottawa state office buildings was restored in two phases and included renovation of the pedestrian plaza between the buildings. The \$9 million project was completed 60 days ahead of schedule, avoiding thousands of dollars in project costs.

"It is always great for our team to be recognized by their professional peer association, said Lisa Webb Sharpe, DMB director. "We're also proud of the IPI award and our ability to renovate this 25-year-old structure safely, quickly, and economically."

Members of the International Parking Institute include parking professionals from major transit authorities, government agencies, airports, hospitals, universities, commercial complexes and more. The group's annual awards competition honors projects for design, program and operations, rehabilitation and aesthetics.

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